



TECH CENTER 1600/2900

JUN 1 2001

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: G. Gundling et al.

Serial No.: 09/492,213

Filed: January 27, 2000

Title: METHOD OF PROCESSING A
SAMPLE CONTAINING AT
LEAST ONE BIOLOGICAL
ELEMENT

Case No.: 6416.US.P1

Group Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: B. Sisson

I hereby certify that this paper
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Date of Deposit: May 25, 2001

Jenny E. Rizzotto 5/25/01
Jenny E. Rizzotto Date

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified
above entitled METHOD OF PROCESSING A SAMPLE CONTAINING AT
LEAST ONE BIOLOGICAL ELEMENT are the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO 1449, in duplicate;
3. References as cited on PTO 1449 (1 Reference); and
4. Return Receipt Postcard

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any
additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR 1.16, as well as
any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17
associated with this communication for which full payment had
not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025.

ABBOTT LABORATORIES
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Respectfully submitted,
G. Gundling et al.

David J. Schodin
David J. Schodin
Registration No. 41,294
Agent for Applicants



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[Signature] 5/25/01
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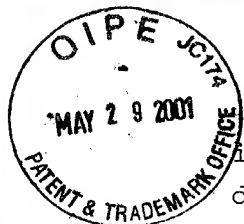
Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Applicants respectfully petition and request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence such consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists, and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art". If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed

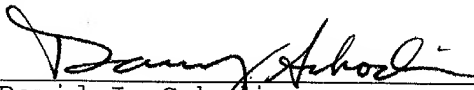


invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account any additional fees (or credit any over payments) that may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in association with this communication for which full payment has not been tendered.

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